Proposal to Establish a Security Printing Press in Karnataka

3437. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of security printing presses in the country, statewise, indicating their installed capacity and output;

(b) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government had submitted a proposal to establish a security printing press for Central Government in order to create employment; and

(c) if so, what is the Central Governments decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There are two security printing presses in the country, one at Nashik in Maharashtra and the other at Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh. The details regarding installed capacity and the output are given in the statement

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Installed capacity and the output of Security Printing Presses

	Item	Annual Capacity	Output for 1990-91
		(In Crores Pieces)	
A. INDIA SECURITY PRESS, NASHIK	Post Card (Single and reply)	55.00	60.04
	Ordinary Envelopes	10.00	15.60
	Registration Envelopes	0.80	0.82
	Inland Cards (Letters) (Conventional and Versatile)	72.00	70.69
	Green Envelopes	4.00	4.81
	Aerogrammes	3.00	2.79
	Non-Postal Adhesive Stamps	2.00	1.14
	Non-Judicial and Allied Stamps	8.69	12.92
	Cheques (Non MICR)	2.70	1.84
	Cheques (MICR)	5.06	3.41
	Agmark labels & Passes	2.70	1.22
	Passport Booklets	0.17	0.10
	Miscellaneous security items, i.e., Savings Instruments, Railway Warrants, Sales-tax Forms, Import Licence, etc.	8.79	9.46
	Pulbic and Service	3.58	5.28
	Postage Stamps	Issue Sheets	Issue sheets
	Special commemorative Stamps	35 Issues	44 Issues
8. SECURITY PRINING PRESS, HYDERABAD.	Post Cards	37	26.1
	Inland Letter Cards	34	33.2
	Envelopes	11	6.56
	Central Excise Stamps	2600	2504.95
	Non-Judicial Stamps	12	1.68

Evasion of Excise duty by RIL

3438. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reliance Industries Limited has evaded excise duty of Rs. 120 crores;

(b) if so, whether the Central Board of Excise and Customs has written a strong letter to the Union Law Minster in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to revive the case of duty evasion against the firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No case of excise duty evasion of Rs. 120 crores

or more by M/s Reliance Industries Limited has been detected so far.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Upgradation of Pay Scales of Indian Accounts and Audit Department

3439. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have agreed in principle to upgrade 80 percent of the posts of Account and Audit Officers to Accounts officers of the I.A. and A.D. in the pay scale of Rs. 2200-4000 to the scale of Rs. 3000-4000;

(b) if so, whether the decision has been implemented by Government;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor, and

(d) by when the decision is likely to be implemented by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Appointment of Directors on the Board of State Bank of Hyderabad

3440. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding appointment of Directors on the Board of State Bank of Hyderabad;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if reply to part (a) above be in the negative what are the reasons for the delay in taking a decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) In respect of the Boards of Subsidiary Banks of State Bank of India including the State Bank of Hyderabad, Govenment is the appointing authority only in respect of workman employee director, officer employee director and Central Government official nominee. The non official directors are appointed by State Bank of India in consultation with the Government.

At present, the Central Government official nominee is in position in State Bank of Hyderabad. The workman employee director who was appointed in 1988 has completed his tenure and is continuing pending appointment of his successor as per the provisions of the statu. The position of officer employee director is vacant. Government have already initiated necessary action for filling up of these vacancies.

Government have not received any proposal from State Bank of India regarding appointment of non official directors on the Board of State Bank of Hyderabad.

Silver Being Smuggled into the Country

3441. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any estimate of the quantity of silver being smuggled into the country every year; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to curb this smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Smuggling being a clandestine activity, it is not possible to estimate the quantity of silver being smuggled into the country, every year. The Customs authorities are alert against smuggling including that of silver. The field formations have been equipped with vehicles, vessels, firearms etc. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling. The anti-smuggling efforts have resulted in substantial seizures of silver over the past few years as given below:—

Year	Quantity (In Metric Tonne)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1987	16.99	906
1988	16.99	1056
1989	99.32	6757